GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1647
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2005
GOVERNMENT PURCHAES
Jha Shri Raghunath;Paswan Shri Virchandra;Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any inter-Ministerial meeting has been held relating to the procedure for purchase of stationery and other items by Government departments;

(b) if so, the details of decisions taken in the meeting;

(c)) whether any decision has been taken with a view to safeguard the interests of co-operative societies;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether Rules currently governing purchase procedure by Government departments has been followed strictly; and

(g) if not, the details of violation of such Rules and action taken thereon?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri S. S. Palanimanickam)

(a) to (e) The provisions of Department of Personnel & Training`s (DoPT) O.M. No. 14/14/80-Welfare dated 14.7.1981, making it incumbent on all Central Government Departments, their attached and subordinate offices etc. for making all local purchases of stationery and other items only from Kendriya Bhandar in relaxation of the procedure of inviting tenders/quotations prescribed in General Financial Rules (GFRs), were reviewed in an inter-Ministerial meeting held on 2.6.2004, wherein it was broadly decided that the provisions of GFRs about tendering should be followed for purchase of stationery and other items, and DoPT was advised to issue revised instructions. Since then, this Ministry has revised GFRs, 1963 after wide ranging consultations with Ministries/Departments (including DoPT). The new GFRs, 2005 have been promulgated with effect from July 1, 2005. As a result, the special dispensation under the earlier GFRs, 1963 available to Co-operative Societies ceased to have effect once GFRs, 2005 became operational. However, the new GFRs, 2005 do not exclude the Co-operatives from supplying to Govt. departments, nor preclude Ministries/ Departments from making their procurements from these Co-operatives.

(f) & (g) It is for the individual Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India to ensure compliance of the current Rules governing purchase procedures.